



p830 042-0471

United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

FA17
ECØ17

March 25, 1983

Dear Senator Cranston:

Thank you for your inquiry of March 7 on behalf of your constituents,

concerning the cases of Ana Esther Koldorf and Adolfo Chorni in Argentina.

The Government of Argentina has been accelerating the release of persons held without charges under the state of siege authority of the National Executive, the so-called PEN prisoners. The Minister of the Interior has said that there will be no prisoners in the PEN status by the time the military returns power to an elected civilian government in early 1984.

We do not know the current status of Ms. Koldorf. Cases of PEN detentions are systematically reviewed by the Argentine authorities and we are hopeful that prisoners will continue to be released. The current number of PEN detainees is 243 and new releases are occurring monthly.

Concerning Mr. Chorni, he is among the many who have disappeared in Argentina and about whom we have been unable to obtain information regarding their welfare and whereabouts. Accounting for the disappeared is one of the most difficult human rights problems facing the Argentine Government and one which we hope the Argentines will eventually resolve.

We will ask our Embassy in Buenos Aires to follow-up on the status of Ms. Koldorf's case and to forward to you any available information.

With cordial regards,

Sincerely,

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

() Release ☒ Excise () Deny

Exemption(s):

Declassify: () In Part () In Full

() Classify as () Extend as () Downgrade to

Date Declassify on Reason

Enclosure:

Correspondence returned.

The Honorable

Alan Cranston,

United States Senate.

cc: American Embassy

Buenos Aires, Argentina

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Clearances: ARA/SC:RW

ARA/SC:RBH

ARA:ECoolidge

H:SBartlett